

Hollywood has an historical record of opposing every new media that comes along. This includes cable TV, audio tapes, and video. Then, they end up using the very media they opposed to make even more money.

Now once again they are trying to stop us - the consumer- from using the latest digital media for recording.

I am a law-abiding consumer who believes that piracy should be prevented and prosecuted. However, if theoretical prevention comes at the cost of prohibiting me from making legal, personal use of my content, then the FCC should be working to protect all consumers rather than enable those who would restrict consumer rights. In the case of the broadcast flag, it seems that it will have little effect on piracy. With file-sharing networks, a TV program has only to be cracked once, and it will propagate rapidly across the Internet. So, while I may be required to purchase consumer electronic devices that cost more and allow me to do less, piracy will not be diminished.

I therefore oppose the broadcast flag, and ask that my opinion be added to the chorus of people who do not want Hollywood to once again try and stop progress. If they have their way, we can't even record programs for later viewing, an act that the courts have found legal.